

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MORALES et al.

Appln. No. 09/735,918

Filed: December 14, 2000

FOR: RAPID TISSUE PROCESSOR



Atty. Ref.: 4052-4

Group Art Unit: 1623

Examiner: Not Known

RECEIVED
DEC 11 2001
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

#5
MW

* * * * *
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

December 7, 2001

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached is Form PTO-1449 listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under 37 CFR § 1.97(f), to enable Applicants to comply fully.

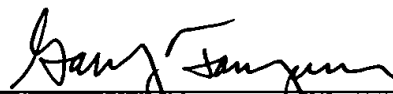
As provided by 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that this information and the listed references are prior art merely because they have been submitted for consideration. Furthermore, no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all possible material information.

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures, as well as the return of a copy of the Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials per MPEP § 609, are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if further information is needed.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:



Gary R. Tanigawa
Reg. No. 43180

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100